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2	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	
3	BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT	
4	ALPINE SATELLITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN	
5	DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT	
6		
7	TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING PROCEEDINGS	
	BEFORE ARNOLD BROWER, HEARING OFFICER	
8	NPR-A COORDINATOR	
9	Village Council Hall	
	Nuiqsut, Alaska	
10	February 10, 2004	
	7:00 o'clock p.m.	
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	PANEL:	
12		
	MR. JIM DUCKER	
13	BLM, Environmental Program Analyst	
14	MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK	
	Translator	
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Page 2 1 PROCEEDINGS (On record; 7:00 p.m.) MR. BROWER: Good evening, everybody. (Greetings in 3 4 Inupiak). It's customary to have -- begin these public meetings in the Community of Nuigsut, to open the meetings with 5 a prayer. Sarah Kunaknana? (Speaks in Inupiak) Sarah? 6 7 MS. SARAH KUNAKNANA: (Invocation) 8 MR. BROWER: Good evening. The time is, for the record -- I don't have a clock. Did you say you have a clock? 9 10 COURT REPORTER: 7:23. 11 MR. BROWER: 7:23. For the record, it is 7:23. We are here in Nuiqsut and it's time for us to start this hearing and 12 I'll call this hearing to order. My name is Arnold Brower, Jr. 13 14 I am tonight's hearing officer. This hearing is being held for 15 the purpose of providing you an opportunity to make oral comments on the BLM's Alpine Satellite Development Plan 16 17 Environmental Impact Statement and the related ANILCA 810 18 Subsistence Evaluation and Finding. Unlike the open house 19 earlier today, this is a formal hearing; as such, we will not be entertaining questions during the hearing. However, several 20 21 individuals from BLM and the cooperating agencies in this EIS 22 are here. They will be available to answer questions after the meeting if time allows. 23 24 At this time I would like to turn the floor over 25 briefly to Jim Ducker and Gary Foreman to tell you something

Page 3 about where we are in the development of that EIS. 1 Jim? 2 MR. DUCKER: Is Eli going to translate? (Speaks in Inupiak) MR. BROWER: MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates) 5 MR. BROWER: Thank you. MR. DUCKER: Thank you, Eli, and thank you, Arnold. 6 7 name is Jim Ducker and I'm with the BLM, the lead agency for 8 this effort. With me tonight are other representatives from BLM, from EPA, from the State of Alaska. Those are all cooperating agencies on this EIS. And also there's a couple 10 11 members from the contractor, ENTRIX Corporation, which is developing the EIS for us. 12 This Draft EIS is analyzing the impacts of a proposal 13 14 that has been submitted to us by ConocoPhillips to develop five 15 new drilling pads near the Alpine facility and..... MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: 16 (Translates) 17 MR. DUCKER: I'd like to take a moment just to update you as to where we are in the development of this -- of the 18 19 EIS. At the front table there is a newsletter which has the 20 schedule here. We were -- we began this process last February 21 and had scoping meetings out here. We were here last March. 22 We have since been developing the Draft EIS which are the large documents on the table back there, and we are now accepting 23 24 comments until March 1st on the Draft EIS. We will then have a

Final EIS issued in July and our decisions will be made the

- 1 following month in August.
- 2 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 3 MR. DUCKER: I'd like to thank the community for
- 4 providing us the opportunity to meet here tonight, for Eli for
- 5 his translation, for Arnold, and I'd just like to say now your
- 6 comments are very important to this project and so please bring
- 7 them to us, and at this time I'd like to turn the hearing back
- 8 to Mr. Brower so that we can get your comments.
- 9 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 10 MR. BROWER: Thanks for that presentation. Additional
- information on the DEIS is available at the sign-in table. The
- 12 Draft EIS is available on the Internet at
- 13 Alpine-Satellite-EIS.com on your computer. All comments
- 14 provided to BLM and its contractors will be compiled, analyzed,
- and considered by the BLM and the cooperating agencies in
- 16 preparing the Final EIS and Final ANILCA 810 Subsistence
- 17 Finding. These are scheduled for release in July.
- 18 In addition to speaking tonight or filling out one of
- 19 the comment forms provided at the sign-in table, which looks
- 20 like this, tonight or filling out one of the comment forms
- 21 provided at the sign-in table, can be provided through the Web
- site or by mailing them to ENTRIX, E-N-T-R-I-X, at 3701 East
- 23 Tudor Road, Suite 208, Anchorage, Alaska 99507. The Web site
- 24 and ENTRIX's addresses are listed in the newsletter. (Speaks
- 25 in Inupiak) The deadline for submitting the comments is

Page 5 March 1, 2004. 1 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates) MR. BROWER: This hearing is one of a series being conducted to obtain public comments. In addition to tonight's meeting, meetings are being held -- we already had one in 5 6 Barrow yesterday; we're having one here today in Nuigsut, and we'll have another one in Atqasuk, Anaktuvuk Pass, Fairbanks, and Anchorage. So that we accurately record your comments tonight, I will call the names of those who have indicated they wish to speak and invite you to come to the microphone and then 10 11 you will state your name and state the organization you represent, if any, and then make your comments. If you have 12 written comments, I will ask you to provide them to the person 13 14 at the table on my left, Lisa [sic], and they will be included 15 as part of the record of this hearing. I will ask each speaker to limit comments as closely to five minutes and then I might 16 17 make some modifications. If you reach the time limit, I will 18 ask you for a summary of your comments and then request that 19 you step down to let others speak. When we complete the list of people wishing to speak, 20 21 and if time allows, we may offer you another opportunity to 22 speak as well and ask if there are any others who wish to 23 comment. 24 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)

MR. BROWER: Before we begin to take comments, I would

- 1 like to stress that our meeting tonight is specifically to hear
- 2 comments and concerns related to Alpine Satellite Development
- 3 Plan and the 810 ANILCA finding in it. Your comments will
- 4 serve several purposes: They will tell us if we have correctly
- 5 identified the resources of the area, uses of these lands, and
- 6 the potential effects of the different alternatives of the
- 7 DEIS. There are several alternatives that are hanging over
- 8 there and Alternative A, I believe, is on the table.
- 9 Your comments will serve -- they will tell us if we
- 10 have correctly identified these things. You can suggest other
- 11 alternatives that would reduce or eliminate effects on lands,
- 12 resources needed for subsistence purposes. You can also tell
- 13 us if the proposed subsistence finding in the Draft EIS are
- 14 accurate and whether we have left anything out of the
- 15 subsistence evaluation.
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- MR. BROWER: As we begin to take comments, I request
- 18 that the audience be considerate of the speaker and give him or
- 19 her the courtesy of your attention.
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 21 MR. BROWER: The first person I have listed here is
- 22 Eli. Did you want to be first? You have -- you listed yes, or
- 23 do you want to go on later?
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: Yeah, I'll go down later.
- MR. BROWER: Okay. We'll start with Mark Ireland.

Page 7 1 MR. IRELAND: I'd like to defer my chance to speak and allow Isaac speak first, if he'd like. MR. BROWER: Let the record indicate Mark will not 3 4 speak tonight. 5 (General laughter) MR. BROWER: Okay. Mark, we'll let the others speak. 6 7 Langston? 8 MR. LANGSTON CHINN: Yeah, I'm going to defer my time to Isaac. 10 MAYOR AHTUANGARUAK: In other words, Isaac, you'd 11 better get up here. 12 MR. BROWER: The microphone is right here. They have 13 to be recorded. (Speaks in Inupiak) 14 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates) 15 MR. BROWER: Langston, are you going to speak after or 16 are you giving him your time? 17 MR. LANGSTON CHINN: No. I think it's going to take a little longer than five minutes. 18 19 MR. BROWER: All right. MR. ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: Arnold, I think my comments are 20 21 going to be more -- exceed the five minutes and I'd like to ask 22 for.... 23 MR. BROWER: (Speaks in Inupiak) 24 MR. ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: Okay. The Kuukpik..... 25 COURT REPORTER: Your name? Your name?

MR. ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: Isaac Nukapigak with Kuukpik 1 2 Corporation. I'd like to make these comments as the president of Kuukpik Corporation. As a resident of Nuigsut since its 3 refounding, (speaks in Inupiak). I'll start over. I'm making this -- the comments as president of Kuukpik 5 6 and as a resident of Nuigsut since its refinding in 1972, and as an Inupiat who has relied on subsistence resources of the 7 traditional land use of the Kuukpikmiut for daily food diet. 8 At 1,200 pages the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is too long and complicated for anyone to finish reviewing by 10 today's meeting. Kuukpik will not take a position for or 11 against the proposed project until we review, until we have 12 finished our review. However, we have already -- we have 13 14 already concerns about many area where the information in the 15 Environmental Impact Statement is so incomplete that we can't tell what is proposed. 16 17 At this point in the review, it appeared to us that the 18 Draft Environmental Impact Statement needs to be supplemented and the public comment period extend. The examples I'm giving 19 you are very few of the gaps we see so far. 20 21 The proposed Nigliq Channel bridge is in the area that is vital to us, but the Draft Environmental Impact Statement 22 does not give us enough information about the -- about the 23 24 design to make informal [sic] comments. The bridge site is in 25 the critical area that is heavily used for subsistence

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gatherings of fish. Last fall, 64 fishing nets were counted
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     within the three-mile radius of the proposed bridge location.
     The Niglig Channel is our navigable waterways to marine
     mammals, waterfowls, and other subsistence resources that we
     depend on. This is -- this is how we get to Fish Creek, go
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 6
     hunt and to Cross Island where we go out whaling.
             Many, many caribou migration through the spot where
     ConocoPhillips wants to put the bridge. We need to see how
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     many bridge supports would be put in the river, where they
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     would go, and what -- and what they would look like. The
     Nigliq Channel is -- the Nigliq Channel in this area is shallow
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     and hard to get through already. Bridge support -- bridge
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     supports can cause new sandbars, growth of existing sandbars,
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     erosions of the river banks or ice jam. What in the design of
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     the support and of any ice-breaking or ice-protection
     structures? How high off the water are the different part of
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     the bridge? I mean these are questions. Will there be problem
     going through the bridge at the different water levels?
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     would the bridge channel -- how would the bridge change the
     river current at the spot that boats pass through the river --
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     that pass through the bridge area? Any structures in the river
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     change the channel? I mean these are questions. Where are the
     study shows how ConocoPhillips' bridge would affect the Nigliq
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     Channel? Where would the ramp lead up to the bridge end and
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     the bridge beginning? For purpose of flooding, would there be
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- 1 a bridge span or culvert in the ramp lead to the bridge? How
- 2 would the bridge and its ramp be protected from erosion? How
- 3 would caribou get around the ramp? These are all of our --
- 4 these aren't even all of our questions.
- 5 At the joint pipeline meeting just recently,
- 6 ConocoPhillips said that it may have the bridge design 30
- 7 percent completed before March 8th agency meeting, saying that
- 8 30 percent of the design level usually used for permitting
- 9 decisions. The public comment period for this EIS is over
- 10 before and the basic information is even -- the public comment
- 11 period for this EIS is over before the basic information is
- 12 even available to us. That's not right and it's not
- 13 acceptable. The public comment deadline needs to be extended
- 14 for at least 30 days after all the very basic questions and
- answers so that we can have an opportunity to make a meaningful
- 16 comment.
- 17 An Environment Impact Statement is supposed to ensure a
- 18 hard -- a hard look at what is being built. No one can give a
- 19 hard look at the bridge when there is so little information
- about what would be built.
- 21 One of the reasons Nuigsut asked for an Environmental
- 22 Impact Statement for the satellites was the huge difference
- 23 between the estimate of Alpine air traffic and the reality. At
- 24 the agency meeting last week, Kuukpik was told that the
- 25 estimate of air traffic was the flights -- for the satellites

was not completed. Although Alpine would be the hub of the 1 2 construction and the operation of the satellites, the Environmental Impact Statement does not include any air traffic data from Alpine for the past two years. We are concerned about the accuracy of the air traffic estimate. How can we 5 make meaningful comment when this information is missing? 6 During the Environmental Assessment for Fiord and 8 Nanuq, Kuukpik, City of Nuiqsut, Native Village of Nuiqsut, Kuukpik Subsistence Oversight Panel, and the Fish and Game -and the Fish and Wildlife Services all opposed crossing the 10 11 lake north of the Nigliq, CD-4, within the road where culvert insert [sic] of the bridge. The lake has a unique habitat, 12 but ConocoPhillips still proposed to cross the lake with a 13 14 gravel road and culvert. The base of the -- the base of the 15 full altered -- the base of the fill placed in the lake looks like it's almost 90 feet wide. We want more information about 16 17 the alternatives here and the spots where culverts are still 18 proposed. 19 There has been repeatedly testimony that Nuiqsut residents harvest caribou from the Porcupine and the Central 20 21 [sic] Arctic Herd and that both herd come into this area. 22 Draft Environmental Impact Statement says that -- says that the Porcupine Herd doesn't come into the area and that's because 23 24 this area is fragile [sic] -- fragile [sic] of the range of the 25 Western Arctic Herd. These two herds are not discussed

Kuukpik, City of Nuigsut, Native Village, Kuukpik 1 further. 2 Subsistence Oversight Panel had previously pointed out that there is no scientific evidence examining the impact of 3 development on caribou on the edge of the migratory route. Where is the hard look at the impacts of this project which 5 6 harm two important food resources for our people is not even 7 being discussed? How can socioculture impact our -- on Nuiqsut be understood when impacts on whole food resources are ignored? 8 The Environmental Impact Statement says that -- says that there will be no direct impact to Nuigsut health and 10 11 welfare from the development of up to 22 satellite oilfields and the central processing facility. As proof, the 12 Environmental Impact Statement points to a 20-year-old study. 13 14 Nothing happening on the North Slope 20 years ago compared to 15 what had happened in Nuigsut since Alpine was built. Until then, there will never be an oilfield built anywhere close to 16 17 the community. It's misleading to draw conclusions of what had 18 happened in Barrow, Atgasuk, or Kaktovik 80 to 100 miles or 19 more from the oilfield when Alpine is eight miles from Nuigsut and the proposed CD-4 is only about four miles away from 20 21 Nuigsut. Other villages are essentially impacted on the edge 22 of their traditional subsistence range. The direct impact here is at the heart of a subsistence range. Oilfields, pipelines, 23 24 roads and airstrips would extend through probably two-thirds of our subsistence range. The Environmental Impact Statement 25

- 1 recognized the impact of our range, but does not study or
- 2 analyze the extent of the impact.
- If these oilfields are built, Nuiqsut will be nearly
- 4 surrounded, nearly boxed in by oilfields, pipelines, airstrips.
- 5 Caribou would have to pass many obstacles to reach our hunting
- 6 ground. Do not tell us that there is no direct impact of the
- 7 health and welfare of Nuiqsut. At this point in time, the
- 8 socioculture part of this EIS is inadequate.
- 9 ConocoPhillips had stated repeatedly in meetings in
- 10 Nuigsut that the pipeline will be seven feet in height, but the
- 11 Draft Environmental Impact Statement says ConocoPhillips
- 12 propose a five feet pipeline elevation.
- The existing stipulation required roads and pipelines
- 14 to be separated by 500 feet, as this has been shown to mitigate
- 15 impact of caribou. The Environmental Impact Statement says
- 16 that ConocoPhillips' design allows as little as 350 feet of
- 17 separation, but never acknowledged that this is the contrary to
- 18 what is required. Why does this design call for 350 feet of
- 19 separation when 500 feet is required? How can the
- 20 Environmental Impact Statement properly analyze the proposal
- 21 when it doesn't recognize the standard requirements?
- 22 Kuukpik has not taken a position so far on whether the
- 23 Lookout proposed CD-6 should be allowed inside the Fish Creek
- 24 buffer zone. We are concerned that ConocoPhillips' propose
- 25 increase the impact of putting the Lookout pad in the Fish

- 1 Creek buffer by also putting a generator on the pad to provide
- 2 power for CD-6 and CD-7. The Draft Environmental Impact
- 3 Statement does not even explain why the generator with its
- 4 noise and air pollution could not be put at CD-5 or CD-7. Both
- 5 of these pads are outside of the sensitive area. We and the
- 6 public need the information before we can comment in a
- 7 meaningful way.
- 8 What is the impact of the state road to Nuigsut and the
- 9 proposed bridge crossing the Colville? The project is
- 10 certainly a foreseeable impact at this point. It may be a
- 11 little more work or it takes a little more time to include it,
- 12 but the state says it will build. Ignoring the combined
- impacts of such roads and with these satellites on Nuiqsut
- 14 would gut the purpose of this EIS.
- 15 Other agencies, including cooperating agencies, had
- 16 told us that it would give BLM -- that they gave BLM comments
- and requests for information in mid November that had not been
- 18 included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. We are
- 19 told that the agency comments and responses will be included in
- 20 the Final Environmental Impact Statement. The approach
- 21 efficiently [sic] denies the public any chance to see what the
- 22 agencies' comments are and to express an opinion of these
- 23 concerns until the EIS is complete. Review an incomplete Draft
- 24 Environmental Impact Statement is no review at all.
- 25 Public notice of the available of the Draft

- 1 Environmental Impact Statement was first published in the
- 2 Arctic Sounder on February 5th. For many residents of Nuiqsut,
- 3 the late publication denies them almost 20 days of the 45-day
- 4 review time. That late publication requires the public comment
- 5 period to be extended.
- 6 This is not a complete list of the gap in the EIS. So
- 7 far, Kuukpik is most struck by many -- is struck by how the
- 8 document that is 1,200 pages long, so many questions
- 9 unanswered. The community of Nuiqsut needs better and more
- 10 complete information before the -- before the public comment
- 11 period should be allowed to be closed. Nuigsut will have to
- 12 live with the operation of these satellites development for 30
- 13 years and the long-term impact of the developments will easily
- 14 last another 30 or 60 years before shutdown of the facilities.
- We and the community of Nuigsut have the right to a
- 16 fair, complete public Environmental Impact Statement process.
- 17 A less hassle [sic] process may resolve our concerns. Based on
- 18 our view -- our review so far, we feel that the BLM expedited
- 19 schedule for this EIS is driving BLM to cut corners and to omit
- 20 critical information and analysis. My comments.
- MR. BROWER: Thank you, Isaac. Perhaps you can
- 22 summarize that or now that Eli -- can you provide the summary?
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 24 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Isaac. (Speaks in Inupiak)
- 25 Joe? (Speaks in Inupiak) Joe Nukapigak, for the record.

- 1 MR. JOE NUKAPIGAK: I don't have a written statement,
- 2 but I want to do some oral.
- 3 MR. BROWER: Okay.
- 4 MR. JOE NUKAPIGAK: On a later date that I might want
- 5 to make a written statement on a later public hearing. But I
- 6 do have some notes here in regards to some of the -- in regards
- 7 to this Draft EIS.
- 8 My name is Joe Nukapigak, by the way. I'm a resident
- 9 and I want to welcome, and for allowing me to testify in
- 10 regards to this matter that will to some extent affects the
- 11 village and its surroundings and the environment that it has
- 12 since Alpine was developed five years -- about five years ago.
- I have never envisioned that there would be proposed
- 14 satellite development at this early stage as oil companies like
- 15 Conoco has. To some extent, it seems like every year there has
- 16 been exploration in the NPR-A since NPR-A was leased out to the
- oil companies, which some of that is within our critical
- 18 habitat area of caribous, fish, and what have you.
- I guess over the last 30 years that we have learned how
- 20 Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk development has occurred and how it has
- 21 affected the people that lives up here, the North Slope
- 22 residents. Sometimes we have to make adjustment to what we
- 23 have and I hope the oil companies can make some adjustments
- themselves if they want us to have their blessing, but I hope
- 25 this BLM and these cooperative agencies, Corps of Engineers,

- 1 EPA, Coast Guard, and State of Alaska will have unbiased
- 2 intervention on its decision once this EIS becomes final
- 3 because the reason for me saying that is oil extraction will be
- 4 around at least during my lifetime and my children. Now they
- 5 have grown up, some of our kids have grown up; now I'm a
- 6 grandfather. Now my kids, my children, our children's children
- 7 will have to carry the brunt of this impact, as a changing
- 8 environment of our surroundings covered with production pads as
- 9 more and more of NPR-A is opened up.
- 10 We're just only talking about Northeast. Northwest is
- 11 just around the corner for itself as well, and beyond that.
- 12 For the last 30 years, Nuiqsut has carried the brunt. When I
- 13 say that, over to the east of us you could see the horizon just
- 14 like a big city and when it comes with that is, of course, air
- 15 pollution. Air quality up here is a lot different than what
- 16 the Lower 48 has. Eight months out of the year, we are in the
- 17 wintertime; 40 below zero when the air quality sometimes can
- 18 become with air pollution. With the prevailing winds that we
- 19 have, sometimes that -- when we have our northeast winds like
- 20 we have today, it can't be seen, the Arctic haze, on a clear
- 21 night, on a clear day. What causes that? Are we -- is our
- 22 children getting sick more often from this? I don't know
- 23 because there is no scientific facts about it.
- 24 And for this little village when we first allow Alpine
- 25 to be developed because of the economic interest that we might

- 1 have and the particular employment that we might have for our
- 2 village, but under this scenario that we look at 20, 30 years
- down the road, then the subsistence eventually -- the
- 4 subsistence way of life eventually will evolve as we all know
- from the past reports, scientific reports. Mostly some of that
- 6 came from the oil companies themselves with their findings and
- 7 no intervention reports that I know of. Maybe they might have
- 8 been from universities, from Fish and Wildlife, with the State
- 9 of Alaska or North Slope Borough Fish and Wildlife Department.
- 10 Then, the subsistence way of life can be deterred if we allow
- 11 ourselves.
- 12 What is subsistence? There are two definitions under
- 13 state law and the federal law. Under the state law, it don't
- 14 rec- -- the State of Alaska don't recognize rural preference.
- 15 But under the sub- -- but under the federal law, rural
- 16 subsistence -- rural Alaska is recognized by the federal
- 17 government. With continuing -- with a continued subsistence
- impasse by the State of Alaska's legislators who don't want to
- 19 willingly to satisfy the residents of State of Alaska, I think
- 20 I prefer that I am more at ease with this federal BLM -- with
- 21 this federal law under ANILCA Title 8, Section 803. It fully
- 22 protects the residents who live in rural Alaska. State of
- 23 Alaska don't recognize that. You know why? I'll tell you why.
- 24 Because State of Alaska legislators also reluctant. That is
- 25 why there is so much animosity within the urban and rural

Alaska. We all know that. Everybody want to have access to 1 2 the land of the animals. Sport hunters. And, here, we're not sport hunters. We are who we are, that has been cared -- that has been in our blood from the day one that we were born. Subsistence is our way of life, no matter where. How 5 6 geographically it may be, subsistence will always be within us, 7 in our blood because my father, my parents, our grandparents 8 has taught us that from the day one. And, of course, with these modern weapons and whatnot, but still my oldest boy is 10 utilizing caribou antlers to make harpoon heads from it. He is 11 utilizing some of that experience; some of that I have taught 12 him to be. And sometimes this concerns other residents regardless where they live; there will always be a concern 13 14 whether it will be for development. I'm not here to stir the 15 pot. I want to see the rainbow over the horizon continue upon this community. 16 17 Caribou that we heavily depend on, there are three 18 recognized caribou herds here in Alaska: Porcupine Herd, Central Arctic Caribou Herd, Teshekpuk Lake Caribou Herd, and 19 Western Alaska. But the most recognized that we have up here 20 21 on the North Slope is Teshekpuk Herds and Central Arctic and 22 sometimes the Porcupine Herds migrates over to this area, too, to the Colville, all along to the North Slope coastline because 23 24 of the summer. Deflection of the caribou route, migratory 25 route, will always be a concern. If there's going to be a

pipeline as being suggested that is minimum height of five 1 2 feet, I don't think that's -- I don't think that's -- it will sit well with me. As time and time again we have suggested, seven feet or higher would be most appropriate to have ease of mind, or if the pipeline can be buried in some way, it would be 5 6 more better, but according to the oil companies, it would be 7 more expensive. Well, if it'd be more expensive, then why propose this development if it's not going to be economic for them? Is five -- is a couple more feet of pipeline height 9 makes it more economic? What is economic when you look at it? 10 What is the economic limiting factor we're looking at? We're 11 not only looking at five satellites 10 years down the road 12 under the full-field development scenario as I read some of the 13 14 reports of 1,200-some pages. It's not going to be five. 15 That's a smoke -- that's a smokescreen for the oil companies to start out with five. Twenty-two -- possibly 22 production pads 16 17 all around the village: north, south, east, and west. Maybe that's going to happen during my lifetime. I don't know. 18 19 depends on how the federal government BLM will decide for that. These are the scenarios we see, I see. Air quality is 20 21 another matter. Natural gas flaring is always being seen from 22 here, the village. Just when you look out the window, you could see the flaring. You don't have -- you don't even have 23 24 to go up there anymore to look for it. What are the chemicals out there that's being discharged under the permitted by EPA? 25

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Are they dangerous to the human's health? To the animals? 1 To environment that we heavily depend on? Are the animals 2 affected? I plea I don't know. I'm not a scientist, but it don't take a rocket scientist to figure that out. It can be seen. Is it because of this air quality being discharged, is 5 there going to be a greenhouse effect? Greenhouse gas? In 7 some part of the country out there, not only in United States, acid rain, when you read newspapers or being broadcast as a news, acid rain. Is that going to happen in the North Slope some time in the future? If it's so, let's find out about it. 10 11 We have more; there are numerous concerns. Oil spill is another one; it will always be as long as 12 there are oil companies. Oil spill of any kind, from all the 13 14 reports that I have read, there seems to be an oil spill every 15 year. Small -- some of them are small, but they do damage the tundra, the lakes. But if they do happen to get in the river 16 17 system, that can be more damaging to the fish that comes to our land. Look at Exxon oil spill, how devastating that was to the 18 19 Prince William Sound. Is that going to happen up there? I would like to see the oil companies form in our 20 21 village oil spill response team. Maybe that's one of the 22 answers. Instead of waiting 30, 40 hours like what had happened at Exxon, let's have a re- -- I don't see -- I don't 23 24 want to see oil company-sponsored of their own and it would

require certification. Won't be time to do that early on

- 1 before some devastation of the oil spill that might have to the
- 2 land. Let's form these. And BLM should conduct long-term
- 3 study on North Slope habitat, wildlife, and social impact not
- 4 only to this village but to other villages as well that will.
- 5 Employment and training. Of course, BLM don't have that, but
- 6 they still can. That should be part of the stipulation.
- 7 Employment and training is -- has always been the oil
- 8 companies. They haven't, but they see it now; they're finally
- 9 coming around to do that. It took them 30 years to come around
- 10 to hire and train. Is it because of Alpine?
- I believe this Alternative A is not a route for that.
- 12 Alternative C, I would prefer that because that would allow our
- 13 local people to come home -- to go to work and come home, be
- 14 able to come home, which is only eight miles away, when you
- 15 look at it. I would prefer that Alternative C, but I'm told
- 16 that it's not going to be -- I'm told that it's not going to be
- 17 economic if Alternative C is adopted by BLM. Now, if they're
- 18 not going to do that, then I prefer that we have no development
- on the satellites, if it's going to become uneconomic under
- 20 Alternative C as they suggested. If the oil companies like
- 21 ConocoPhillips really want to develop these lands, satellites,
- 22 however they want to do it, they better start working with this
- 23 village.
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- MR. BROWER: (Speaks in Inupiak) Rosemary, are you

- 1 here? If she's not here, Mark Ireland, we skipped -- you gave
- 2 up your time. Do you want to be last now?
- MR. IRELAND: No, I'd just as soon go now.
- 4 MR. LAMPE: I'll go now.
- 5 MR. BROWER: If Rosemary is not here, the next one I
- 6 have on the list is Leonard.
- 7 MR. LEONARD LAMPE: My name is -- for the record, my
- 8 name is Leonard Lampe, L-a-m-p-e. I'm sitting here today as a
- 9 resident, but for your information, I am the president of the
- 10 Native Village of Nuigsut. I will testify at the Anchorage
- 11 hearing. I think we have more agencies there in Anchorage than
- 12 we do, sad to say, in our home town where the actual work is
- 13 going to be done.
- I want to thank you for this opportunity to testify.
- 15 Like I said, I'm disappointed not to see Fish and Game and the
- 16 Corps of Engineers here tonight to here these vital concerns
- 17 and comments of the people that are going to be directly impact
- 18 from this project.
- 19 Nuigsut people have been through change for many years
- 20 since I can ever remember. Six years old we came -- I came
- 21 here. Tents. That was a big change from Barrow to Nuigsut to
- 22 establishing a village. That was a big change for this
- 23 community. Continually, changes even today with the
- 24 development of oil extraction around the Native village as well
- 25 as the other surroundings of the village. The move from Barrow

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was to change the lifestyle of the children so that we can 1 2 lead -- and lead the lifestyle as Inupiaks, to rely on the land and the animals, and to keep our self-identity. That was the main move, I believe, from Barrow, so we don't lose our identity as well as to start up with the ANILCA Act of the 5 6 refounded village. Changes scare everybody, even to this town that's been used to change, that still scares us to this day. Change scares anybody. No matter who you are or where you're from, 9 change will always scare everyone. And I believe that these 10 satellites are -- will dramatically change Nuigsut's lifestyle 11 as well. It will impact not only socially but as well as to 12 the animals and the surrounding animals that habitat the area. 13 14 There is no studies to this reflecting to the social 15 impacts of Alpine or any of the development areas near Nuigsut. There hasn't been any studies going house to house, asking 16 17 people how have they been impacted positively or negatively from the surrounding oilfields. That needs to be taken into 18 19 account. Trying to educate people of the changes, the Corps, the engineers, all the respectful agencies of the changes and 20 21 the impacts of people, of human impacts and social impacts has been very hard on all the entities because we have to not only 22 alone absorb all the information, but we also have to educate 23 24 as well. All the engineers -- all these agencies hire these

consultants, scientists to study the area and the people, yet

- 1 we are never satisfied with the findings because it isn't a
- 2 defined study of our impacts and our lifestyle that can change
- 3 from these satellites, whether it be good or bad.
- 4 There are areas of impacts and we feel that -- I feel
- 5 that are going to be a concern to the village. Pipeline height
- of being five feet, as you heard earlier tonight, that's a very
- 7 sentiment and how it's been a concern to us. As you know,
- 8 pipeline height determines if caribou will go into this area or
- 9 not. Pipeline height will determine if hunters can access
- 10 those areas or not. Pipeline height has a lot to do -- it's a
- 11 barrier between a hunter and a subsistence user and its area of
- 12 use as well.
- Caribou do not know if that pipeline is there to help
- 14 them or deprive them. Caribou will always, as we studied and
- 15 seen them, do not get along with pipeline. The Niglig
- 16 Crossing, that's a real concern to us. We suggested a little
- more stable ground on both sides of the river south of the
- 18 proposed area, but, again, that was not seriously considered
- 19 because of economically-wise for the industry.
- We've been here hundreds of years, our people, but
- 21 still to the industry and the agencies, we do not know nothing
- of this area. We do not know nothing of the animals. We do
- 23 not know nothing because your traditional knowledge is not
- 24 being taken seriously and it's not implemented in the EIS. So,
- 25 therefore, you, the people that will live with the impact that

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surround the area do not know nothing of your surroundings, 1 2 according to the industry. CD-4 is proposing 18 wells. CD-4 is about a quarter mile from the Niglig Channel. You can throw a rock from the river to CD-4; that's how close it is. It is very sensitive area being it's so close to the Nigliq Channel. 5 6 During the break-up, spring break-up, there's forces on the 7 Nigliq Channel that are unimaginative. We now have a classic, a small, little classic. We guess on the times and the date of the break-up. It used to be an annual event to watch the break-up on the Niglig Channel, but it is nothing compared to 10 the Colville River, what our elders tell us: the tremendous 11 force that the river brings upon the ice and the banks of the 12 river from this spring break-up. 13 14 To this day, there is no proven methodology by any oil 15 industry or any agencies of proving cleaning oil on ice in the Nigliq Channel or the Beaufort Sea during this season. There 16 17 is no proven method. Fact. That's a fact. If this was to 18 happen anywhere else in the country, this -- projects as these 19 would not happen because there is no protections for these areas we rely on. That's a fact. Traditional knowledge of 20 21 areas are not being taken serious as stated earlier. Human 22 uses, animals uses are not being documented. We're only duplicating what was documented in the past with past projects. 23

What Alpine studies we're doing, were done back then for this

EIS, those are being duplicated from that project. Where

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Alpine sits at is a totally different area than NPR-A. 1 2 needs to be taken into note. That needs to define that this is a different area. So it shouldn't be a duplication of that Alpine studies. It has a whole new area. Fish Creek is a valuable area used by subsistence users and residents of 5 Nuigsut. It is in the buffer zone, a protection zone that this 7 community was assured that protections of subsistence lifestyle 8 would not be impacted or deferred. No pipelines, no structures, no development of permanent would be built in this buffer zone. That was promised to this community during the 10 scoping and the development of leases of NPR-A and now that 11 promise is being evaluated. Our buffer zones, our protection 12 zones are being re-evaluated. What word do we have in this? 13 14 None to this day. 15 Calendar use, according to your agencies and your Corps of Engineers and everyone else that you adopt this -- you 16 17 follow this calendar use by the use of the Nuigsut Paisanich, which I remind you was published 30 years ago and has been in 18 19 the works of republishing and updating, yet that is being used even to this day of activity 30 years ago for today's projects. 20 The use of calendars for subsistence hunters has somewhat 21 22 changed, not terribly; the months and the calendar of use are still pretty much the same, but there are some changes with 23 24 animals added and fishes added onto those lists as well as

others that we do not hunt or fish pursuedly [sic] as we did 30

- 1 years ago. But I just wanted to implement that there are
- 2 certain areas with CD-3, adding another airport would increase
- air traffic, air pollution to the area, as Alpine was already
- 4 underestimated for flights. Air quality is becoming more of an
- 5 issue than it has ever been in the area. CD-5 being in the
- 6 crossing area is a concern because it's in the marshlands and
- 7 not stable, as well as CD-4 having 18 wells there. The
- 8 crossing is not -- is in a low bank area. We felt that it
- 9 would not have any natural protections from the great spring
- 10 break-up.
- 11 There are lots of -- like I said earlier, 1,200 pages,
- 12 that's a lot to read. A lot of us received our EIS books on
- 13 Friday. Today is Tuesday. I didn't even have time to go
- 14 through the first hundred pages. I know Isaac didn't have
- 15 time. We all received this on Friday and we're always promised
- 16 by the agencies and the industry that these Draft EISes would
- 17 get to us a lot sooner than this. Even if I stayed up all day
- 18 and all night these past five days, there would be no way I
- 19 could get through -- halfway through that Draft EIS. So I just
- 20 wanted you to understand that we just received this on Friday
- 21 through Frontier.
- 22 With human impacts, there are many changes among the
- 23 village, yet nobody ever takes the time to study these changes.
- 24 There are many, I call them social ills when it come to
- 25 parents, leaders having to feel the frustration and the

- 1 decision-making of how this should occur, especially when it
- 2 comes to economics and impacts. Yes, there are economics in
- 3 this, there are possible jobs for the village, there's
- 4 potential contracts for our corporation, but it took 30 years
- for us to prove ourselves and still to this day, even with
- 6 those contracts in place, we're constantly proving ourselves.
- 7 And how long is that going to go on? We've been here all our
- 8 lives, we will always be here all our lives, and that still
- 9 isn't strong enough. You still -- it's a competitive world and
- 10 you have to be competitive, but if the economics are not going
- 11 to come to the village, why even support a project as this?
- 12 Just like if you were living in Anchorage and a project was
- 13 happening in Girdwood, you know, why support something in
- 14 Girdwood that will not benefit Anchorage and uses Anchorage
- dollars and energy? It doesn't make sense. There's a lot of
- 16 human impacts that I will not go over tonight and I will
- 17 elaborate those more in Fairbanks and Anchorage, but there are
- 18 impacts to human uses and subsistence users of the area that
- 19 are not being heavily studied enough. I, myself, didn't have a
- 20 written comment, but I thank you for your time.
- MR. BROWER: Thank you, Leonard.
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 23 MR. BROWER: (Speaks in Inupiak) Rosemary?
- 24 MAYOR AHTUANGARUK: Good evening. My written testimony
- 25 faced technical difficulties, so I don't have that tonight. My

name is Rosemary Ahtuangaruk. I'm currently the mayor of the

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2 City of Nuiqsut. We have been working on the Alpine satellite for a period of time now. There has been a delay in receiving the information, which we were not able to review enough of this information in a timely manner to be very informed on 5 trying to give an informed statement. We have done testimonies like this over the last many years and the strength of our testimony comes from who and what we are. We face these changes every day of our lives. When I first came out here in '86, Nuigsut was dark around us. Now we 10 have lights within eight miles of our community. The change to 11 the look of the land is tremendous. What we have seen occur to 12 the east of us is on this map up here and it's very difficult 13 14 to get a perspective unless you see this map, which is not included in anything that's presented in this document that 15 we're evaluating, but that's why we are trying to stand so 16 17 strong on what we're facing. We don't want to see the sprawl that occurred in Prudhoe Bay and in Kuparuk River Unit come 18 19 into our hunting grounds. We have given up a lot of our hunting grounds already because of the changes that have 20 21 occurred from these development. Our people are very strong 22 because we have fought and lost so many times, and we try to be united as an agency within our community. We work with the 23 24 corporation, we work with the Native Village, we work with 25 Kuukpik Subsistence Oversight Panel, we work with the North

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1 Slope Borough, we work with the State of Alaska, we work with 2 the agencies, the entities that come here to deal with these developments. We are very few people trying to stand up and 3 effectively participate in these meetings. When we are spread to such a small body trying to face 5 6 the entourage that comes to us, it decreases our effectiveness 7 when we don't have the depth with technical support, legal support to face what's being brought to us with all the technical support that each of you have within your departments and agencies. We have worked very effectively in trying to 10 11 address some of the concerns that we have with the changes to the stipulations that are being proposed for this project and 12 future Northeast projects as well as Northwest projects. 13 14 A long time ago our elders sat down and they decided 15 that there were certain stipulations that they felt were necessary to provide us the protections that we hope to 16 17 continue with our subsistence lifestyle. Now those protections are being put into a very broad and vague way with these 18 19 changes that are being proposed that decrease our interpretation of them as well as other agencies' 20 21 interpretation of them. When there is a lot of ambiguity for 22 us to interpret it, when we deal with so many different people, there's going to be more vagueness that comes from that. 23 24 have heard many discussions related to concerns of that are in

gaps with what the corporation has identified and with other

people that have had a chance to review this, and the city 1 2 wants to support these people's efforts in bringing out their concerns. There is a strong effort to try to build our Kuukpik Subsistence Oversight Panel. We in the community as leaders 5 6 feel this is an avenue to help us address our concerns. need to build the strength in this body to give them the 7 8 funding to allow them to do the job we want them to do without putting on them so many demands that their effectiveness is 10 decreased. We have also worked as a group to address in many 11 of our statements that have built up to this, not only with Alpine satellite, but the NPR-A changes, the OCS changes, and 12 the Title 19 changes, and the Department of Transportation 13 14 changes. All of these comments need to be reviewed in dealing 15 with Alpine satellite because all of these things are going to affect our community, not only on these projects, but future 16 17 projects. 18 When we look at what came out with the National -- the 19 Alaska Petroleum News, they gave us a 20-year outlook in that If we see 10 additional satellites come out of this, 20 21 that causes us great concerns. We see a lot of satellites that 22 came out of past developments. Those satellites caused us a 23 lot of concerns in which many of our hunters no longer go to 24 the east to try to hunt. Our traditional names that are in 25 those areas are not taught to our children because our children

1 do not hunt there with us any more. Those are real serious 2 impacts. The problems we face as parents trying to educate our children in our traditional hunting grounds when they're no longer our traditional hunting grounds, but new hunting grounds that have been identified because of the changes we've already 5 seen, that causes us to teach our children very differently. 7 We see problems with our -- educating our children with our traditional means when there are so many things that can affect 8 our traditional means. You may now have to deal with overflight issues, you may have to deal with boats on the river 10 11 when we're trying to boat. We have to deal with airboats out 12 there, we have to deal with a lot of inspection activity, we have to deal with scientists doing their own studies. Some of 13 14 the scientists can be the most impacting to us because of their 15 refusal to look at how they're impacting us because they want to be out there at this certain time because they've been doing 16 17 this for 15 years or whatever the number of years they've been doing that. Those things have a cumulative effect. 18 19 EIS from the company, it does not take into account all of those additional impacts that come from these sides when you 20 21 have to deal with monitors that come in because of state 22 regulations, federal regulations. All those things are not incorporated into these numbers and that changes what we're 23 24 having to address when we have to deal with 1,900 flights out 25 of Alpine. In the book it said we deal with 20 flights.

That's a big change in our reality of trying to continue our 1 2 traditional lifestyles when we have to teach our children that you have to wait to see if that helicopter that's bringing material is going to come back when you're taking a first-time hunter out, even though we, as parents, looked on the community 5 6 weekly notice of what's supposed to occur and it's not listed. 7 You cannot effectively teach your children on how to process 8 our traditional life means when all these things prevent us from successfully living the lifestyle we have lived. 10 We've had a lot of changes to our social life. We've 11 had a lot of changes to our health. We're facing a lot of changes to our community because of what's going on around us. 12 The stresses our community leaders face is a lot higher than 13 14 other leaders because of the demands that are put on us, not 15 from just Alpine satellite, but NPR-A Northeast, NPR-A Northwest, the Department of Transportation, the new bridge 16 17 that's going to come in and change Nuigsut's outlook forever. 18 These all are not incorporated into your document you bring us 19 to evaluate, but in our minds we know we've got to also look at this bigger picture. We used to believe with what was being 20 21 presented to us that this is the true picture. We've learned 22 from dealing from Alpine that the true picture is not presented when we're planning. We have to look outside of what's being 23 24 presented and look at the bigger picture, because we will suffer that. We want to have some hope that we're trying to 25

protect our children with the stipulations that our elders 1 2 fought to present in a five-year battle in planning and to try to keep hope for our future generations. We're very concerned about the effects that may come from this reinjection of substances that could be harmful. 5 6 They say they're deep enough, but they also said the oil was 7 deep enough. We see that on top of the land in various areas. Are we going to see what's been reinjected in the near future or do we have to wait till our rates of health issues are so high that we have no one left to deal with them? Those are 10 serious concerns that we face. We know that there's 11 contaminants already in some of our foods from Umiat. Do we 12 know that's the only issue that's providing contaminants? 13 14 We have a concern of other concerns. There have been problems 15 with reinjections at other sites in the ocean, on the land, and these things may lead to our people having food that are 16 17 contaminated, and we don't want to see this. We don't want to wait until we're seeing all the food with tumors. We've seen 18 19 caribou with tumors, we've seen fish with tumors, we're seeing a lot more than our elders used to see. These are very 20 21 concerning to us. Do we have to wait till all of our people 22 have tumors before we get the support? We have seen a tremendous increase to a number of asthma cases in our 23 24 community. With the proximity to development coming so close to our community, we have tens upon tens upon tens of cases of 25

I know that if I were still at that clinic, the number 1 asthma. 2 would have greatly increased, but when I left it in 2000, there was about 75 people that had asthma. When I started in '86, we had one. Somebody needs to take this seriously and give us the means to identify this. The demands that are put upon our 5 6 public services are great with the variation and the 7 fluctuations that occur. 8 We have people from these other facilities and uses out there coming into our community, utilizing our resources, but 9 we're not given the flexibility to increase our public service 10 11 staffing that are necessary to meet these demands. our health aide that has been carrying the load through 12 September, in December was told to wait till the middle of 13 14 February to get some help. That's not meeting our demands. 15 We've know that the ice road has caused some increase to our public services for the last how many years that we've had ice 16 17 road come into our community. If we don't get the support to 18 build the fluctuation into our demands, either giving increased 19 salaries during these times to help in retention, either giving the flexibility to hire support staff when we need them, or 20 21 looking at alternatives that decrease our stress load on our public service providers, we're going to continue to lose our 22 educated people into other fields because they don't have the 23 24 demands placed on our public service providers. 25 Our North Slope Borough services have greatly reduced

and the few people we have in our public service positions are 1 2 being stressed tremendously and year after year we're asking them to hold on. We don't want that to happen. Dangerous things happens when you work day after day with minimal sleep and are expected to continue for months on end. We don't want 5 6 that kind of stress to be put upon our people, so they quit 7 their jobs. We work very hard on getting our people educated in their positions. We want to help to retain them, but we can't expect them to hold on for their many hours that they've already given for the many years they've been in their 10 11 positions. We need to do whatever we can to help us address 12 these. We have demands on our power plant, we have demands on our water plant, we have demands on our sewer plant, we have 13 14 demands placed on our store. All of these public service 15 providers, they bear the brunt of the community's frustrations. Some of you people have come here and have gotten very 16 17 frustrated when we present at our meetings and you feel like we're in your face. Well, you don't stay here; you go on the 18 19 plane and you leave. We're the ones left trying to help feed our people when they have nothing in their ice cellars to feed 20 21 them. Their efforts to subsist have been greatly decreased 22 because of all the activity around us decreases their effectiveness in their hunting, their fishing, and all the 23 24 other activities that we do. You can't expect us to go out and subsist. In the area around Alpine, we had 97 houses harvest 25

in '97. In the heart of Alpine development, we went down to 1 2 three. Three houses hunt caribou. Those are a very serious decrease in numbers and when you say that there's going to be no impact, well, reality is we have carried the load of our people not having their traditional resources. We have worked 5 with cake walks and fundraising to help them get food in their houses when we don't have the jobs to meet them. continue to do what we need to do, but we also need to get some support in working on this. We know that these sites, whether or not we accept them as being, yes, let's go ahead, whether or 10 11 not we accept that, decisions will be made deciding whether or not they go ahead. And when we see the reactions, we're going 12 to be the ones that continue to come back and deal with our day 13 14 to day actions in this village and we don't want to continue to 15 tell our people, well, just hold on because with these developments, we're going to be circumferenced. There's no 16 17 place else to hold onto, except for what we're fighting for now. We're wanting to protect those setbacks that were 18 19 established. We want to make sure that we can travel to an area regardless of a pipeline being there to get to our 20 21 caribou, not wait till we get to an area that's been designed 22 as acceptable to cross to get to that caribou or whatever resources that are out there. We want to make sure that our 23 24 foods are healthy and going to sustain us. With the monies 25 that are going to be generated from these sites, if we have to

- 1 deal with these sites, then, we need to earmark some of those
- 2 funds that go into addressing our public service demands within
- 3 the North Slope Borough, within the City of Nuigsut, within the
- 4 corporation, the Native Village, whatever means we identify as
- 5 being acceptable to address them. This is very important for
- 6 us. We don't want to have to fight to locate those monies in
- 7 the future when we've already gone without. We want them
- 8 identified here and now. We know there's a lot of money out
- 9 there. Someone told me that Alpine is making how many millions
- 10 a day out there. Well, those monies should have been earmarked
- 11 back then because now they're not earmarked and we have to
- 12 fight for them. We're put under public scrutiny, not only in
- 13 the state, but also in the Lower 48 because they wonder why
- 14 this little village of 500 people should get these impact
- 15 funds. Well, we should get these impact funds because we, day
- 16 to day, go without when we're out there trying to live as our
- 17 elders have taught us in the areas they taught as being able to
- 18 sustain us with the lifestyle we have learned to live, and we
- 19 want to be able to continue that. We don't want to give that
- 20 up to allow this development to occur. Thank you.
- MR. BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 23 MR. BROWER: (Speaks in Inupiak) Okay. Isaac is next,
- 24 Isaac Kaigelak. Are you here?
- MR. ISAAC KAIGELAK: Good afternoon. My name is Isaac

Kaigelak, K-a-i-q-e-l-a-k. For the record, I'm a resident of 1 2 30 years in this village and I've seen the changes that have evolved around us. When we first came here, we were considered like traditional Eskimos that went back due to our forefathers living here in the birthplace and learning the traditional 5 6 values of hunting and fishing up here, and I have seen guite a 7 few changes. And my suggestion is that I go for that no alternative plan because no matter how that we negotiate through these A, B, C, that we will be socially impacted and 9 there's not enough adequate study of the animals in our -- in 10 our lands and the changing environment of how the animals will 11 be upset and then they might be changing their routes of how 12 they will live. And I think it's too soon that -- to try to 13 plan any of these. 14 15 And that full-field production on the Petroleum News, like in 20 years, I seen that thing on Petroleum News like 16 17 Mr. Joe Nukapigak said that we probably will be -- once we open our door on these five satellites, there probably will be like 18 29 from Kugururok (ph) all the way to Ocean Point and all the 19 way west of us, which is our vital hunting grounds. Even 30 20 21 years ago, that towards Kuparuk was just like a little candlelight and then our fathers and everybody, even some of 22 the elders that have passed on, used to use all of this as a 23 24 hunting ground and they never left a footprint in our lands. 25 And then nowadays there are some people that are building

- 1 cabins and stuff as to put their footprints on the traditional
- 2 sod houses that Inupiat history and culture has done. But I
- 3 just wanted to comment that no alternative -- no alternate plan
- 4 is the best plan, as far as I'm concerned of being a resident
- 5 of this village. Thank you.
- 6 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Isaac.
- 7 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 8 MR. BROWER: (Speaks in Inupiak)
- 9 MR. ISAAC KAIGELAK: (Speaks in Inupiak from back row
- 10 in audience)
- 11 MR. BROWER: Okay. All right. The general comment is
- 12 he doesn't support any alternatives at all. That's because of
- 13 the lack of studies that he just -- there shouldn't be any
- 14 proposals at all. Okay. The next one I have written down is
- 15 Carl. Are you still here? Carl Brower. Okay. Carl (speaks
- 16 in Inupiak). Dora? Good evening.
- MS. DORA NUKAPIGAK: Good evening. My name is Dora
- 18 Nukapigak, subsistence hunter and a resident of Nuigsut for 30
- 19 years. I came here when I was eight with my parents, along
- 20 with 27 other families. And from remembering from my
- 21 childhood, subsistence was our way of life. It was food for
- 22 the table and with the -- all the proposed satellites that are
- 23 being brought to us, it's -- to me, it's devastating because I
- 24 want to be able to go and teach my boys, who are growing up, to
- 25 hunt like my fathers and my grandparents have taught us.

1 And I didn't have a written comment, but I just want to 2 say that I represent the elders who has no education on reading the EIS draft. They have taught us to live a good life, subsistence life, the way Inupiaks are and that's who we are, and that's who we will continue to be when you leave. And I 5 6 want to say that where were the agencies 30 years ago when 7 Prudhoe Bay was being developed? Where were the agencies for our elders who I know have lost their rights, hunting rights over at Kuparuk, some on along the Sagavanirktok River? Where were the agencies to protect our elders who had once lived in 10 11 Prudhoe Bay? Where were the agencies when Sarah Kunaknana who I know has a sod house in Prudhoe Bay that she hasn't gone to 12 see 30 years and was told by industry that she's -- she can't 13 14 go over there? She would for one time would love to go see her sod house, which is in Prudhoe Bay. Where were the agencies 15 when my mom and other people from Oliktok were taken -- driven 16 17 out of there because of industry? And today we are faced with having to try to balance 18 19 our life with subsistence, with the industry. We're trying to balance our life and for the most of it, we're trying to 20 21 protect our subsistence resources, what we heavily depend on, 22 and it's hard. It is hard. A lot of us have, you know, got out of our way from hunting to grab that EIS statement and say 23 24 read this, you know, and that's -- it's kind of -- it's hard trying to protect something that you value a lot. 25

We've had so many meetings within the past 20 years, I 1 2 would say, when the industry started coming to us proposing with a lot of proposals with development. And we have learned 3 when they say -- I remember when Alpine was being -- was discovered, they came to us and said we want this -- you know, 5 we want to develop over here. You're not going to see a big 7 footprint; it's going to be small. You're going to hardly notice it. We were told that. How many years ago we were told by the industry that Alpine when we -- they came to us with all the papers and whatnot, the maps, that it was going to be 10 small. Little did we know that today they're proposing to 11 develop I would say 10 Alpine satellites. They're only naming 12 out five, but where are the other five going to be? I know 13 14 around Alpine, but which -- which direction? Do we know? 15 To the west of us is a really sensitive area for the community of Nuiqsut because we hunt there. We used to go this 16 17 way, but with the pipeline there, you know, it's -- there's no 18 game over there for us to bring home. With steak costing \$11 19 for one T-bone steak and with our seasonal jobs three months out of a year with the industry, you know, the rest of the 20 21 months we're out there hunting. Whether it's fish, caribou, 22 geese, ducks, we're out there getting our food for our kids. And I just want to say to all you agencies that are 23 24 here, that you start listening to what the people of Nuigsut 25 have to say because we're the ones over here living 365 days a

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- year trying to make a living, United States citizens who pay 1 2 taxes, and yet we are deprived of our way of life, which is --I don't know what it's going to look like if you guys develop. Are we going to continue to hunt? I know with industry comes with regulations from the federal. We can't hunt or carry 5 6 firearms to Prudhoe Bay. What will that bring to us and on the 7 west side of us? The most fear I have with the pipeline being there is 20 years from now, you know, I send my son out to go caribou hunting, there's a caribou right there, there's a 9 pipeline right there, he shoots at it, probably misses the 10 11 caribou and then hits the pipeline. Is he going to get 12 punished for that? This is some of the things you guys are going to have to look into because we have a lot of young 13 14 hunters who are eager to go out there and hunt for food to 15 bring home, and you're going to see a lot more. And I just want to say to you all that I hope that you 16 17 guys take our testimonies and our comments into your 18 consideration because this community is going to be impacted 19 heavily. We've already felt the impacts of Alpine. You haven't even given us 10 years to do -- to thoroughly study the 20
- 24 We'll make the pipeline seven feet, but from the -- from
- 25 reading the EIS draft, it is still five feet.

caribou that used to come from the east. You haven't given

much time to study the caribou for -- for you guys to go ahead

and say, okay, we studied it enough, let's go west, you know.

I was driving out to the ice road towards Deadhorse and 1 2 looking at the Alpine pipeline. Some places where it's five feet, I went -- walked up to that pipeline, hey, this is only 3 three feet because of the drifts. So I would say you guys -if you guys are going to develop, make it more sense -- sense, 5 you know, make sense for our caribou to cross because I don't 6 7 want to have to go out further with gas being 2.75 a gallon and you're having to go past 15 miles, 20 miles on the other side of the pipeline just to find caribou. So I would say seven feet, you know, with the minimum. 10 I have kind of mixed emotions. I am not against 11 12 development, but to me what -- what I am and who I am, I will continue to be out there subsistence hunting along with the 500 13 14 some residents of Nuiqsut. So I just want to say take into the 15 Nuigsut's consideration, listen to us because we've been talking this for 20 years. And I want -- I just want to thank 16 17 our elders for bringing us here, you know, and from hearing a 18 lot of their stories of what Prudhoe Bay, all the resources 19 they had over there and all the sod houses and the cellars they had over there, they're all under some pad in Prudhoe Bay. 20 21 Historical sites. 22 I would have loved to go visit Sarah Kunaknana's place in Prudhoe Bay. She talks of a sod house where she grew up and 23 24 now she's restricted from there, and I just don't want to get restricted from the west of us, the south part of us, because 25

- 1 we are subsistence hunters and will continue to be. Thank you.
- 2 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Dora.
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 4 MR. BROWER: Okay. Ruth Nukapigak?
- 5 MS. RUTH NUKAPIGAK: (Speaks in Inupiak)
- 6 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Ruth.
- 7 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates) "My name is Ruth. I'm
- 8 a long-time resident of Nuigsut. I was born here and raised in
- 9 Nuiqsut area. First of all, we would like to emphasize before
- 10 Alpine was developed, a lot of wildlife, caribou migration that
- 11 do occur within the vicinity of Alpine and when the Alpine had
- 12 started and the pipeline was built, now migration of caribou
- 13 has changed along the route. What used to be the most hunting
- 14 area of the people of Nuigsut is now in the hands of all
- industries. What used to be our hunting ground are now an oil
- 16 batch field. What used to be our traditional gathering place
- is now in the hands of the oil industries.
- 18 I would like to emphasize the changes of caribou
- 19 migration that has happened and I have seen and witnessed
- 20 before Alpine had entered in other -- pipeline in the east
- 21 started. Caribou used to freely roam down in our -- right --
- 22 right back there where the Alpine is. Nowadays that change in
- 23 migration has taken place. Some of the caribou might go down
- 24 to that pipeline, but majority of pipe -- caribou now leaves
- 25 the pipeline and go out Itkillik and go across up between Ocean

- 1 Point and then up further south and move across to the west
- 2 side in the insect season."
- 3 Changes that are occurring from Alpine to now is
- 4 different as what she had seen in the past. "Changes in our
- 5 way of life in the Village of Nuigsut is now occurring." What
- 6 she used to see in the past is now past. Rivers like the one
- 7 that she used to -- the deposit of fish in the Nigliq Channel.
- 8 She opposed the bridge that is going to be put on in that area
- 9 of the bridge. It's migra- -- it's in the heart of the
- 10 migration caribou. It's where all the people of Nuigsut
- 11 utilize the river to go down to the ocean to hunt. It's also
- where we do our fishing in summertime and falltime; white fish,
- 13 Arctic cisco in the falltime. "Will this bridge change the way
- of life in Nuiqsut?" One of the questions she was asking.
- MR. BROWER: She mentioned that, you know, although the
- 16 effects of ice road brings employment to the community so that
- 17 people here have revenue for heating their homes and a road
- 18 right to -- connecting to Nuigsut is critical or it's
- important, but most of all to completely protect subsistence
- 20 use areas. (Speaks in Inupiak) That's part of her concerns.
- 21 Okay. Sarah Kunaknana? (Speaks in Inupiak)
- MS. SARAH KUNAKNANA: Good evening. (Speaks in
- 23 Inupiak) My name is Sarah Kunaknana. (Speaks in Inupiak)
- MR. BROWER: (Speaks in Inupiak), Sarah. Eli?
- 25 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: Okay. (Translates) "My name is

Sarah Kunaknana. I have lived in Prudhoe Bay for 16 years, 1 2 living off the land, of the ocean and the sea. I have lived in Colville River, also. I have seen the changes of all the 3 wildlife that used to come and go. Most of the caribou in those days, there were hardly any caribou. Only used to have 5 6 only reindeer in those days; now there is a lot of caribou of 7 all kinds all around this area. I have seen changes in my lifetime from the old days to nowadays. I have seen the changes of what -- what our wildlife has done. Migration of 9 the caribou has changed. The fish and also the break-up of the 10 11 Colville River in Kuukpik -- I mean the Nigliq Channel used to be a lot of water comes down. Nowadays there's hardly any 12 water coming down to the Niglig Channel or Colville. Now the 13 14 changes that we are facing now is coming upon us, especially 15 within NPR-A. The changes that are coming will be in our doorstep." 16 17 "You are making a bridge right in the heart of a 18 caribou migration. The bridge that you -- that you are 19 utilizing is in a very low area which can be moved -- can they move it a little bit further south or north? Even though the 20 21 changes that will come upon us, I still live in Nuigsut and I'm a subsistence hunter. I will teach my young siblings how to be 22 a subsistence hunter, each one never change. I, myself, has 23 24 seen lot of changes coming up in this area. In the old days, 25 when you used to stay here in forties, move back to Barrow, and

- 1 come back in 1973, from this '73 on till now, the rapid changes
- 2 have occurred because of the oil industries are right in our
- 3 doorsteps."
- 4 MR. BROWER: She just wants to -- in the beginning,
- 5 elaborated much on the cultural way of life has from time
- 6 immemorial been able to sustain the Inupiak way of life without
- 7 currency. So this is something that is critical for our
- 8 Inupiak heritage, culture, and it cannot be broken because of
- 9 oil and gas and betterments going on here. Okay. Mark
- 10 Ireland? You've got three minutes.
- 11 (General laughter)
- 12 MR. IRELAND: Thank you.
- MR. BROWER: I want to thank you, Mark, for letting the
- 14 local people speak first and I really do appreciate you doing
- 15 that for them.
- 16 MR. IRELAND: My pleasure. Good evening. I'm Mark
- 17 Ireland, ConocoPhillips' development manager for the Western
- 18 North Slope. That's an area that includes the Alpine field and
- 19 the five projects that we're talking about here for Alpine
- 20 satellites. I'd like to thank everyone who is here, especially
- 21 the elders, the BLM for allowing me to speak this evening, and
- 22 the leadership of Kuukpik and Isaac in particular. I think
- 23 he's lining up some beds for us for this evening, so I know
- 24 we'll appreciate that.
- MR. BROWER: Thank you, Isaac.

Page 50 1 MR. ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: I've got a tent for you. (General laughter) 3 MR. IRELAND: I'm not as tough as you. I won't make 4 it. 5 MR. BROWER: Better pay. 6 MR. IRELAND: I'd like to recognize there will be 7 changes with development; that changes have occurred, but I'm 8 going to speak to the benefits that I see with development this 9 evening. ConocoPhillips is the largest producer of oil and gas 10 11 in Alaska. We're the largest holder of leases, including state, federal, and Native corporation leases, and we're the 12 most active explorer. Would you like to translate as I go or 13 14 wait till the end? 15 MR. BROWER: Do you have an extra copy of that? MR. IRELAND: No, I don't. It's kind of marked up 16 17 I'm right down to here so far. 18 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates) 19 MR. IRELAND: I'm pleased to have this opportunity to 20 voice ConocoPhillips' support for Alternative A of the Draft 21 Environmental Impact Statement for the Alpine Satellites 22 Development Plan. I believe Alternative A represents a balance among environmental concerns, geology, and respect for the 23 24 subsistence way of life of the Native people. ConocoPhillips 25 has a proven track record on Alaska's North Slope and in the

- 1 National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska.
- 2 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 3 MR. IRELAND: The Alpine Satellite Development Plan has
- 4 been designed using the best practices and technologies learned
- 5 from 30 years of Arctic development experience. It has also
- 6 been designed in a way that minimizes the environmental impact
- 7 and the size of our footprint as well as preserve the Arctic
- 8 environment for the wildlife and the people who live here. Our
- 9 project design already incorporates more than 80 mitigation
- 10 measures. These measures include everything from consultation
- 11 with local residents on subsistence issues to waste
- 12 minimization efforts, and a constant vigilance to reduce the
- 13 size of our footprint.
- 14 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- MR. IRELAND: The entire area impacted by these five
- satellites would be 3/100 of one percent of the total plan area
- 17 being considered by the BLM. ConocoPhillips has also proven we
- 18 can work closely with our neighbors and operate in a way which
- 19 respects their subsistence way of life. This dialogue takes
- 20 constant efforts on both parts. Together, we must look for
- 21 approaches to development that support the way of life for
- 22 residents of the North Slope. Residents of the North Slope
- 23 Borough have benefited from oil industry taxes, through
- 24 improvements to schools, infrastructure, and communities.
- Last year, the North Slope Borough collected nearly 200

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million dollars from the industry. The State of Alaska 1 2 collected revenues equalling 80 percent of its unrestricted general fund. These funds are crucial for continued social services. The estimated Native, state, and federal revenues from the Alpine Satellites Development project cited in the 5 6 Draft EIS totals nearly 600 million dollars. Residents of the North Slope Borough villages will also benefit from this 7 development through part-time seasonal and full-time employment 8 opportunities. The Alpine Satellite Development project would generate 3.7 million manhours of work and over the six to seven 10 11 years of the project employ an average of 270 people per year. This will also create opportunities for Alaska Native 12 corporations such as Kuukpik. 13 14 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates) MR. IRELAND: ConocoPhillips is committed to developing 15 future opportunities through projects like the Alpine Career 16 17 Quest, a unique mentoring program for Nuigsut Village high school students. Last summer, ConocoPhillips hosted 38 18 19 students from Trapper School and ConocoPhillips has and will continue to support the ongoing studies of environmental, 20 21 economic, and cultural issues. We are committed to working 22 with you to ensure future development happens in a way that 23 respects your heritage and subsistence way of life.

Reserve-Alaska will have economic benefits for Alaska, the

Oil and gas development in the National Petroleum

- 1 Native people, and the nation. ConocoPhillips is committed to
- 2 trying to maintain our production levels for the foreseeable
- 3 future, but we can't do it without projects of this type. Who
- 4 tonight -- who here tonight believes there is already enough
- 5 investment in the state? Clearly, continued investment on the
- 6 North Slope will benefit everyone who lives in Alaska through
- 7 state and local revenues, better jobs, and better schools for
- 8 our children.
- 9 In conclusion, I strongly urge support for
- 10 Alternative A and to find that it's in the best interest for
- 11 development, for the residents of Alaska, and for the nation to
- 12 bring about the first commercial oil production in the National
- 13 Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. Thank you.
- 14 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 15 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Mark. Eli, I'm going to give
- 16 you an opportunity to -- if you have a prepared statement or
- 17 make a.....
- 18 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: I've got no prepared, but I could
- 19 comment a little bit on -- from the elders, what they think.
- 20 MR. BROWER: Okay. Eli Nukapigak, for the record.
- 21 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: Good evening. My name is Eli
- 22 Nukapigak, member to Kuukpik Subsistence Oversight Panel, also
- 23 a member to the North Slope Borough Fish and Game, Nuigsut city
- 24 council.
- I respect these elders that have come to speak before

- 1 you on the changes that are occurring, whether they be good or
- 2 for the bad, but I would like to point out that I'm a
- 3 subsistence hunter. Like my brothers and my sisters, we're the
- 4 family that come in and subsistence out most of our lives.
- 5 That's the way we are here in this community. We have seen the
- 6 changes of our wildlife and has seen the changes of people come
- 7 and go in this village. The socioeconomic impact statement
- 8 should be strongly addressed in foreseeable development because
- 9 there's a lot of studies already been done in our wildlife.
- 10 What about our social impact of our human? The very people
- 11 that have been impacted upon is us here in this -- here in this
- 12 village.
- 13 (Translates)
- 14 We know that there will be more NPR-A satellite fields
- 15 all the way down toward Barrow and you have to cross a lot of
- 16 rivers and a lot of streams along the way. And how many more
- 17 bridges are there to be across -- are you going to be crossing
- 18 and how many more culverts are you be putting, and roads along
- 19 the way? As you know, this is just one small footstep --
- 20 footprint that is there. What about the bigger footprint that
- 21 is coming behind it? The changes are occurring so fast and
- 22 rapidly. The studies are now just utilizing -- you are
- 23 utilizing the studies that were there 20 years ago. It's time
- 24 to change because what about these studies now that are
- occurring and the studies that are ongoing? Where are they in

- 1 the Environmental Impact Statement? Thank you.
- 2 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Eli. (Speaks in Inupiak)
- 3 Those people that have signed up to speak have been exhausted
- 4 and before we close the hearing, I will ask if there is
- 5 somebody else that may want to speak on this? Is there anybody
- 6 else?
- 7 MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
- 8 MR. BROWER: Okay. Annie? This is Annie Lampe.
- 9 MS. ANNIE LAMPE: My name is Annie Lampe, resident of
- 10 Nuigsut. (Speaks in Inupiak) I've got two of them, one is in
- 11 the Fish Creek; one is up there in (speaks in Inupiak) for
- 12 Lampe site.
- MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Speaks in Inupiak)
- 14 MS. ANNIE LAMPE: (Continues in Inupiak) Thank you.
- MR. BROWER: Thank you, Annie. Annie Lampe, for the
- 16 record. She's been a resident here for 31 years. She's moved
- 17 here in 1973 while there were no houses and there was only tent
- 18 city. She taught as a school teacher in the tents at \$5.25 an
- 19 hour. They re- -- they relocated from Barrow to here to
- 20 raise -- re-establish the community of Nuiqsut. From old
- 21 Nuiqsut, this site was selected for the new Nuiqsut.
- 22 Today she would like her deeds for -- there are two
- 23 allotments, I believe, that are still pending in light of the
- 24 fact that this oil and gas venture is getting hot in the area;
- 25 that these conveyances for land should be primary. And she

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has -- she was born in Oliktok at the Half Moon Three Ranch on 1 2 Oliktok River, and her husband is -- grew up in Teshekpuk Lake area and their birthplaces are there and yet they do not have benefits to the land. This is their birth country. There was no such thing as the State of Alaska, but there is -- you know 5 that no oil was ever thought to be found here. So there are --7 they have absolutely no benefits coming in towards their way. And because -- and she also mentioned that she's worked with the school district for 14 years and she's only had a sixth grade level of education. 10 11 Today, nobody in Alaska or anywhere is going to hire a person that has a sixth grade level of education to be a 12 teacher. But those are the policies and rules and laws that 13 14 are pending and changing towards this land. They've had -recently had meetings on oil and gas to explore development on 15 more of Alpine as we are reviewing right now and she is 16 17 concerned about the availability of subsistence resources, 18 namely fish and caribou, and the pipeline is a very hot concern 19 for her. 20 She would rather see that the pipeline be buried so 21 that it does not alter their subsistence way of life, 22 especially not to alter the migratory route of the caribou. long as the -- this project is going on and if the oil and gas 23 24 industry is going to be going -- be able to go to Fish Creek,

she should have the same entitlement to be able to take the

- 1 road and go over to the Fish Creek without restriction; that
- 2 this community should not be taken for granted. In the first
- 3 place, this community's airstrip was to be enlarged so that it
- 4 could take a bulk of pad -- storage pad issues related to the
- 5 development in NPR-A and Alpine site, yet this is not -- does
- 6 not seem to be happening.
- 7 Again, she reiterates that she does not want the
- 8 pipeline to alter subsistence resources. She would rather have
- 9 it be buried. Five feet is too short. She is aware of the
- 10 conditions of the existing pipeline dilemma in the east of
- 11 Colville River. She wants to be able to sustain all her
- 12 nutritional needs without alteration year after year. Must
- 13 bury this pipeline. You must not alter the caribou migration
- and you better not alter the fish there in Fish Creek and those
- 15 areas in the -- in that buffer zone. Annie Lampe. Thank you,
- 16 Annie.
- Is there anybody else? If not, I will close the public
- 18 hearing. It is 11:08 p.m. (Speaks in Inupiak) the community
- of Nuigsut and those of you that came to provide your testimony
- 20 and your comments related to this Alpine Satellite Development
- 21 Plan. Thank you, Isaac, for helping us get our (speaks in
- 22 Inupiak). This meeting is closed.
- MR. DUCKER: If anybody -- if there is anybody else who
- 24 would like to have their -- any testimony recorded, we do have
- 25 the recorder here if they just want to come up and say a little

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     extra here, we could do that without having the whole public
 1
     testimony if they'd feel more comfortable.
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              MR. ELI NUKAPIGAK: (Translates)
 4
              (Off record)
 5
                              (END OF PROCEEDINGS)
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                          CERTIFICATE
 2
     UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
                                      ) ss.
     STATE OF ALASKA
 3
             I, Elizabeth D'Amour, Notary Public in and for the
     State of Alaska, residing at Fairbanks, Alaska, and court
 5
     reporter for Liz D'Amour & Associates, Inc., do hereby certify:
 6
             That the annexed and foregoing ALPINE SATELLITE
     DEVELOPMENT PLAN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, PUBLIC
     MEETING PROCEEDINGS was taken before me on the 10th day of
     February 2004, beginning at the hour of 7:00 o'clock p.m., at
     Village Council Hall, Nuigsut, Alaska;
 8
             That this hearing, as heretofore annexed, is a true and
     correct transcription of the testimony of said PUBLIC MEETING,
     taken by me electronically and thereafter transcribed by me;
10
11
             That the hearing has been retained by me for the
     purpose of filing the same with the U.S. Department of
     Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 222 West 7th Avenue, Suite
12
     13, Anchorage, Alaska, as required by law.
13
             That I am not a relative or employee or attorney or
14
     counsel of any of the parties, nor am I financially interested
     in this action.
15
             IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and
16
     affixed my seal this 14th day of February, 2004.
17
18
                             Notary Public in and for Alaska
19
                             My commission expires: 12/28/06
20
     SEAL
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